

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

By this amendment, the Applicants have amended the specification so as to update the continuing data of this application. Enclosed herewith is a "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made" which reflects the change made to the specification. It is submitted that no new matter has been added.

The Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated, on page 3 of the Office Action, that claims 41-43 and 46-48 are allowed.

The Applicants further note that the Examiner has rejected claims 34-40 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Tsutsui et al. (USPN: 5,751,675) for the reasons found in the paragraph spanning pages 2-3 of the Office Action.

Applicants note, however, that the Tsutsui et al. reference has an effective U.S. filing date (June 13, 1996) which is after the filing date of Japanese priority application 07-191680, filed July 27, 1995 and Japanese priority application 08-081245, filed April 3, 1996 of the present application. Without intending to acquiesce to the Examiner's aforementioned art rejection, the Applicants submit that the aforementioned priority applications fully support each of claims 34-40 and 44-45. Moreover, the Applicants note that verified English language translations of the aforementioned priority applications have already been filed in parent application Serial No. 08/688,294 (USPN: 6,011,762). For the Examiner's convenience and in order to expedite allowance of this application, enclosed herewith are copies of verified English translations of both of the priority applications.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit that priority has been perfected in the present application thereby removing the Tsutsui et al. reference as prior art.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application now in fact clearly is in condition for allowance and the Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event, however, that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any such matters.

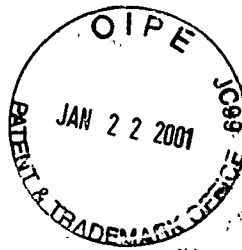
Respectfully submitted,

Katsuya WATANABE et al.

By: 

Dhiren R. Odedra
Registration No. 41,227
Attorney for Applicants

DRO/ah
Washington, D.C.
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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#12

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW
CHANGES MADE



OPTICAL DISK APPARATUS

This is a divisional application of Serial No. 08/688,294, filed July 26, 1996, *USPN: 6,011,762.*

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to an optical disk apparatus that optically records signals in a recording medium and reproduces the recorded signals using a laser beam emitted from a light source, such as a laser. More specifically, the invention relates to an optical disk apparatus equipped with a focus control system for controlling focusing of the light beam irradiating the recording medium so that the light beam is focused on a prescribed position of the recording medium.